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THE LANGUAGE LABORATORY, A REPORT ON TWO CONFERENCES.

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A TWO-PART CONFERENCE ON PLANNING AND OPERATING LANGUAGE LABORATORIES WAS HELD. THE FIRST PART (HELD NOVEMBER 1960) CONCERNED THE LANGUAGE LABORATORY IN COLLEGE. THE SECOND (DECEMBER 1960) CONCERNED THE LANGUAGE LABORATORY IN SECONDARY SCHOOL. THIS REPORT CONTAINS A LIST OF THE CONFEREES AND SOME BRIEF PROCEDURAL NOTES, AND IS A PART OF A SERIES, ED 003 919, ED 003 924, AND ED 003 926. (LP)

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THE MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROGRAM RESEARCH CENTER

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THE LANGUAGE LABORATORY

A Report on Two Conferences

As part of its contract SAE 8342 with the USOE, the MLA held two conferences on equipment for and good practices in the language laboratory.

Participants in the first conference, on the language laboratory in college, held at the Grosvenor Hotel in New York on 27-28 November 1960: DORA BASHOUR, Director, Language Laboratory, Hunter College; PIERRE J. CAPRETZ, Yale Univ.; PIERRE DELATTRE, Univ. of Colorado; GUILLERMO del OLMO, Yale Univ.; FREDERICK D. EDDY, Mod. Lang. Materials Development Center; C. CLELAND HARRIS, Louisiana State Univ.; ALFRED S. HAYES, For. Lang. Consultant, Takoma Park, Md.; ELTON HOCKING, Chairman, Purdue Univ.; JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, U.S. Office of Education; WILLIAM N. LOCKE, Mass. Inst. of Technology; A. T. MacALLISTER, Princeton Univ.; GUSTAVE MATHIEU, Orange County State College; F. RAND MORTON, Univ. of Michigan; EARLE S. RANDALL, Modern Language Project, Boston; A. K. SHIELDS, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc. (representing the Textbook Publishers Institute); WILLIAM J. SMITHER, Tulane Univ.; EDWARD M. STACK, Villanova Univ.

Participants in the second conference, on the language laboratory in secondary schools, held at the Grosvenor Hotel in New York on 18-19 December 1960: JEANNETTE ATKINS, Staples High School, Westport, Conn.; GENEVIEVE BLEW, State Dept. of Education, Baltimore; REMUNDA CADOUX, State Educ. Dept., Albany; VINCENZO CIOFFARI, D. C. Heath and Co. (representing the Textbook Publishers Institute); FREDERICK D. EDDY, Mod. Lang. Materials Development Center; MARY FINOCCHIARO, Director, For. Lang. Inst., Hunter College; EVANGELINE GALAS, Horace Greeley High School, Chappaqua, N.Y.; DONALD HAMLIN, Columbia High School, Maplewood, N.J.; ELAINE HARDIE, Concord High School, Concord, Mass.; ALFRED S. HAYES, For. Lang. Consultant, Takoma Park, Md.; JOSEPH HUTCHINSON, U.S. Office of Education; ROBERT IGLEHART, The Choate School, Wallingford, Conn.; EMILE JALBERT, Thayer Academy, Braintree, Mass.; SYLVIA LEVY, Washington Irving High School, New York; SARAH LORGE, Lang. Consultant, Bureau of A-V Instruction, Brooklyn; ANNA I. NOLFI, Rochester Public Schools; Donald D. Walsh, Chairman, MLA.

For the first conference workpapers were prepared by Professors Capretz, Delattre, Hocking, Locke, Mathieu, and Morton. Professor Delattre could not attend the conference because of illness and discussion of his paper was led by Professor Eddy. The papers of Professors Hocking and Locke were progress reports on foundation-supported projects, still inconclusive, and they did not feel that these papers should be published at present. The other reports have been revised as the result of discussions at the conference and are appended to the present report.

One of the needs felt at the conference was for a brief list of succinctly worded cautions and bits of advice, Do's and Don't's, and each participant in the conference was asked to send in his list. These were collated, edited,

and sent out for criticism to each participant. They were also discussed by the participants at the second conference, and there was general approval of a sharpening of the focus, to address the document especially to the secondary-school administrator. After two revisions, a final version was produced and is appended to this report.

In preparation for the second conference Mr. Hayes prepared a workpaper, "Step-by-Step Procedures for Language Laboratory Planning," which was the substance of much of the discussion. In a revised form which resulted from this discussion, it is appended to the present report. The conference also read and criticized a check list prepared by Mr. Hutchinson for eventual use by the USOE.

The participants of both conferences felt that the revised workpapers, if they could be made widely available, might make a noticeable improvement in the effective use of the language laboratory in school and college.

Donald D. Walsh